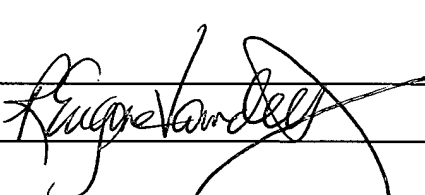


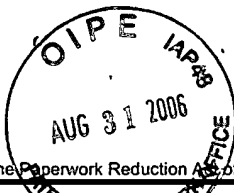
USPTO Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 AUG 2006 C-1 S

This Form Based on PTO/SB/21

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/552,619
	Filing Date	12/26/03
	First Named Inventor	Shoji HAYAKAWA
	Group Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number		VX052694 PCT

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Declaration and Power of Attorney</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Application Data Sheet</div>
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Posz Law Group, PLC R. Eugene Varndell, Jr.
Signature	
Date	August 31, 2006



PTO/SB/17 (01-06)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL

For FY 2006

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 170.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/552,619
Filing Date	December 26, 2003
First Named Inventor	Shoji HAYAKAWA
Examiner Name	
Art Unit	
Attorney Docket No.	VX052694 PCT

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)☒ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 50-1147 Deposit Account Name: POSZ LAW GROUP, PLC

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17☒ Credit any overpayments**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**FEE CALCULATION** (All the fees below are due upon filing or may be subject to a surcharge.)**1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)	50	25
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)	200	100
Multiple dependent claims	360	180
Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)
- 20 or HP =	x	=
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.		
Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)
- 3 or HP =	x	=
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.		

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fees Paid (\$)
- 100 =	/ 50 =	(round up to a whole number) x	=	

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): Recordation of Assignment \$40 / Missing Parts Surcharge \$130

Fees Paid (\$)

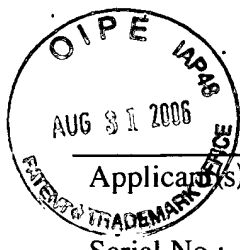
\$170

SUBMITTED BY

Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,728	Telephone	703-707-9110
Name (Print/Type)	R. EUGENE VARNDELL, JR.			Date	August 31, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Shoji HAYAKAWA

Atty. Dkt.: VX052694 PCT

Serial No.: 10/552,619

Group Art Unit:

Filed: December 26, 2003

Examiner:

Title: PIPE CONNECTING STRUCTURE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Date: August 31, 2006

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION

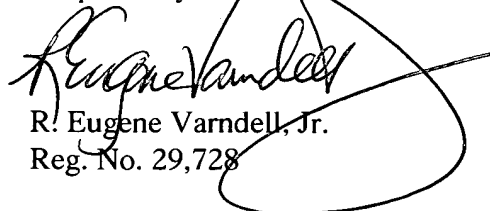
Sir:

This is in response to a Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application mailed on August 21, 2006 in connection with the above application. Enclosed is a copy of said Notice, as well as the following documents and fees required to complete the filing requirements of the above application.

- Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney. The above-identified application is the same application the inventors executed by signing the enclosed declaration
- Executed Assignment and Recordation Cover Sheet
- A check in the amount of \$170 to cover the following fees:
 - Assignment Recordation Fee of \$40; and
 - Missing parts surcharge of \$130.

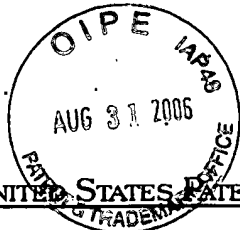
It is respectfully requested that any additional fees be charged to Deposit Account 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,


R. Eugene Varndell, Jr.
Reg. No. 29,728

Posz Law Group, PLC
12040 South Lakes Drive
Suite 101
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 707-9110
Customer No. 23400

DKH/su

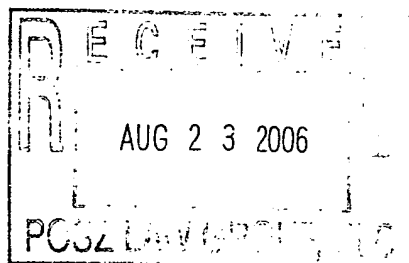


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/552,619	Shoji Hayakawa	VX052694 PCT

23400
 POSZ LAW GROUP, PLC
 12040 SOUTH LAKES DRIVE
 SUITE 101
 RESTON, VA 20191



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	
PCT/JP03/16890	
I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
12/26/2003	04/08/2003

CONFIRMATION NO. 6295
 371 FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000020101120

Date Mailed: 08/21/2006

NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

The following items have been submitted by the applicant or the IB to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495).

- Copy of the International Application filed on 10/06/2005
- English Translation of the IA filed on 10/06/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 10/06/2005
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 10/06/2005
- Copy of Annexes to the IPER filed on 10/06/2005
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 10/06/2005
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 10/06/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 10/06/2005
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 10/06/2005
- Priority Documents filed on 10/06/2005

The applicant needs to satisfy supplemental fees problems indicated below.

The following items **MUST** be furnished within the period set forth below in order to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371:

- Oath or declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the International application number and international filing date. The current oath or declaration does not comply with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b) in that it:
 - is not executed in accordance with either 37 CFR 1.66 or 37 CFR 1.68.
- To avoid abandonment, a surcharge (for late submission of filing fee, search fee, examination fee or oath or declaration) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.492(h) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

Total additional fees required for this application is \$130 for a Large Entity:

- \$130 Surcharge.

Additionally the following defects have been observed:

- The translations of Annexes are canceled since the translations were not submitted prior to 30 months from the priority date.

ALL OF THE ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO (2) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR BY 32 MONTHS FROM THE PRIORITY DATE FOR THE APPLICATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. FAILURE TO PROPERLY RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT.

The time period set above may be extended by filing a petition and fee for extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the response.*

JOHN L ANDERSON

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 211

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/552,619	PCT/JP03/16890	VX052694 PCT